

From: [Blaine Conzatti, Family Policy Alliance of Idaho](#)
To: [Senator Chuck Winder](#)
Subject: God's Intervention in Our Constitution
Date: Thursday, September 12, 2019 3:43:52 PM



God's Intervention in Our Constitution

constitution, flag



Friends,

Next Tuesday marks Constitution Day, a day of federal observance celebrating the signing of the U.S Constitution by the delegates to the Constitutional Convention on September 17th, 1787.

We often forget, however, that the Constitutional Convention almost failed spectacularly. The earliest days of the convention were fraught with contentious disagreements among the delegates, who together comprised an assembly of the greatest political minds of the founding generation.

Realizing that the increasingly fractious clashes risked breaking the convention apart, Benjamin Franklin offered his best hope for finding unity and agreement — recommending that they pursue God's intervention and favor through prayer.

Bemoaning the "small progress" made during the first

several weeks of the Convention as “melancholy proof of the imperfection of human understanding,” Franklin made a motion to hold morning “prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations” to be led by local clergymen:



In this situation of this Assembly, groping as it were in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of lights to illuminate our understandings?

Harkening back to “the frequent instances” of God’s intervention on behalf of the Americans during the War for Independence, Franklin asked his fellow delegates whether they had forgotten that God was the reason for their previous success:

In the beginning of the [War for Independence], when we were sensible of danger we had daily prayer in this room for the divine protection. Our prayers were heard, and they were graciously answered.... And have we now forgotten that powerful friend? I have lived a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth – that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid?

While Franklin knew godly wisdom would lead to national flourishing, he worried relying on “human wisdom” alone would be disastrous:

We have been assured in the sacred writings, that ‘except the Lord build the House they labor in vain that build it.’ I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without his concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the Builders of Babel: We shall be divided by our little partial local interests; our projects will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become a reproach and by word down to future ages.

Thankfully, the delegates heeded Franklin’s wise words by humbling themselves in prayer and seeking God’s wisdom and favor. Benjamin Franklin later remarked that the Constitution they drafted was “influenced, guided, and governed by that omnipotent, omnipresent, and beneficent Ruler in Whom all inferior spirits ‘live and move and have their being.’”

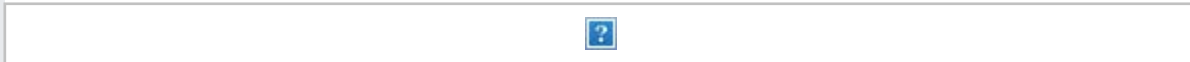
Steeped in biblical truth and full of courageous faith, the delegates to the 1787 Constitutional Convention came together to petition God for guidance and unity as they framed the government under which we still live today. That, my friends, is worth celebrating this Constitution Day.

Celebrating with you,



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From: [Paul Stuber](#)
To: [Senator Chuck Winder](#)
Subject: Solution to Gun Violence Isn't What You Think
Date: Monday, September 9, 2019 3:08:41 PM

Senator Chuck Winder:

Solution to Gun Violence Isn't What You Think by Tony Perkins: a former police officer

Increasingly, few if any genuinely safe places exist as a refuge from armed, angry, addicted young men pumped up on violent video games and suffering from the absence of a moral core. Schools, churches, shopping centers, businesses, and almost every place people gather have become targets for deranged individuals who are set on perpetrating evil and in possession of lethal weapons. At what point will we have the courage to acknowledge that our nation has a problem?

As a former police officer, this perspective on gun violence is not an academic approach. I've encountered armed suspects and dealt with gun-related violence. I've lost friends, gunned down in the line of duty. I have a full appreciation of the stress that families of law enforcement officers endure each day as their father, mother, son, or daughter head out to protect their neighbors and communities.

As president of the Family Research Council, I also saw gun violence from another perspective – as a target of hate. Our organization in Washington D.C. was attacked by a now convicted, domestic terrorist. Inspired by a leftist organization, Floyd Lee Corkins came into our offices with 100 rounds of ammunition and began firing, critically wounding one of our team members.

Yet the growing frequency and scale of such armed atrocities are symptomatic of a much deeper crisis, fomenting for decades. It is dishonest and self-serving of politicians who claim that this crisis is the result of statements made by President Donald Trump about securing our southern border. How would they explain the mass shootings that took place in Orlando, Sandy Hook, San Bernardino or Aurora during the Obama administration?

While policies may have an impact on this issue, unfortunately the debate never gets beyond the stalemate over "gun control." Though an ardent supporter of the Second Amendment, I am willing to talk about laws regarding the ownership and use of guns by those who should not have them. But the missing component to this discussion playing on an endless political loop is the impact of the moral vacuum created by eliminating values, faith and civility from the public square.

Restricting the implements of violence while ignoring the causes is futile. Our nation's capital, with some of the most restrictive gun-ownership laws in the country, clearly illustrates this point. Washington has a gun murder rate of 18 per 100,000, and the city's gun-control laws did not protect our organization. Nationwide, as many as 80 percent of gun-related crime involves illegal guns.

And do laws blocking gun ownership stop murder? The United Kingdom, which already has strict laws on the ownership of guns, began restricting the sale and possession of knives over three inches long after a rash of episodes of knife violence last year. The focus on tools still misses the greater problem.

A deadly game with life-and-death stakes plays out in all cultures when violent people choose to act against their fellow citizens. Rock, paper, scissors, machete, rope, knife, gun – the instruments chosen are secondary to the reasons people strike out.

As Jesus observed in Matthew 15:19, from the human heart comes murder. To talk about the "why" and not just the "how," requires we go beyond external, environmental factors to focus on the internal aspect of morality. And we can't have an honest discussion about morality without including religion.

Our nation's founders understood the importance of faith and morality working hand in hand in our republic to restrain the worst of our human nature. George Washington in his farewell address at the end of his second term as president included several pieces of advice for preserving America's prosperity, security and happiness.

He observed: "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports."

Washington was not alone in this conviction. John Adams, the second president of the United States, recognized the limitations of our laws. In speaking to the Massachusetts militia, Adams said, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

Some will be quick to say that nearly 250 years later, America has moved beyond the faith that inspired nation builders. That is a tragedy. Today our culture increasingly marginalizes public faith and religion, pushing it from the public square. But in the process, we've lost public morality, common decency and virtue, which are essential to freedom.

To achieve security for our families and communities while preserving the freedom that has made America great, we have only one option: Restore morality by renewing our commitment to the free exercise of religion. In other words, we should protect, not prevent, religious freedom.

Our baser nature clearly is not changed by passing more laws. The promises of security through more government restrictions will only serve to erode our freedoms while providing little protection. Rather, the solution to the gun violence plaguing our nation will be found in a willingness to recognize, as did the Founders, that as a people we are dependent upon and accountable to an omniscient God. It is only from such an understanding that morality and public virtue become commonplace, which is essential for freedom.

As Americans, we must carefully consider the path we take in

addressing this present and growing crisis. New gun laws never achieve what a commitment to the Golden Rule can accomplish. America will be safer if all of us do unto others as we want them to do unto us. By Tony Perkins, August 25, 2019.

Probably the most erroneous decision by the Supreme Court was the case of *Everson v. the Board of Education* in 1947. This one decision by Federal Judges has crumbled the very moral foundation of America. We are paying a very steep price for this decision 70 years later.

Paul Stuber

From: [Blaine Konzatti, Family Policy Alliance of Idaho](#)
To: [Senator Chuck Winder](#)
Subject: Let Boise State University President Know You Don't Support Special "Rainbow" LGBT Graduations
Date: Saturday, July 13, 2019 8:02:38 AM



Let Boise State University President Know You Don't Support Special "Rainbow" LGBT Graduations

Boise State Riainbow Graduation



Friends,

Boise State University's "diversity, equality, and inclusion" initiatives have generated lots of news recently. One such initiative, "Rainbow Graduation," offered a special graduation event and ceremony just for LGBT students. The ceremony was emceed by a "transqueen" who had previously competed in Boise's Next Drag Superstar. Rainbow honor cords and "ally" pins were distributed to students who attended.

As Idahoans, we desire to see all people treated with dignity. As taxpayers, we want all students at Boise State University to receive a quality education.

Diversity and inclusion events at BSU are a

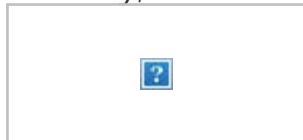
distraction from these goals. These initiatives are offensive to our shared values and a waste of limited school resources.

Sadly, the problem isn't limited to just one graduation event. Other diversity and inclusion programs include interactive workshops and movie screenings that foster an environment of prejudice toward students holding Christians beliefs.

Let Boise State University President Marlene Tromp know you think their radical social agenda is divisive and a distraction from providing a quality education to all students.

You can send a [message to President Tromp](#) in our [Action Center](#) – it only takes a few seconds. And please pass this along to others so they can make their voices heard, too!

Sincerely,



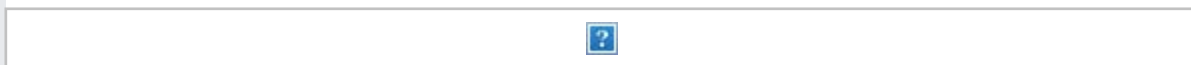
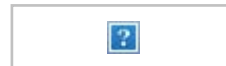
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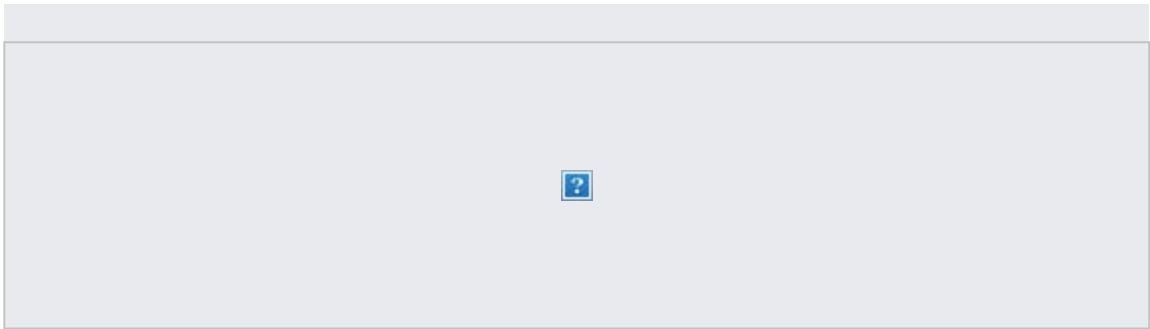
From: [Senator Chuck Winder](#)
To: [John Paulton, Family Policy Alliance of Idaho](#)
Subject: Re: The End of the Capitol Rainbow
Date: Thursday, May 16, 2019 7:32:44 PM

Thanks very much John for your updated. I value you input!

Chuck

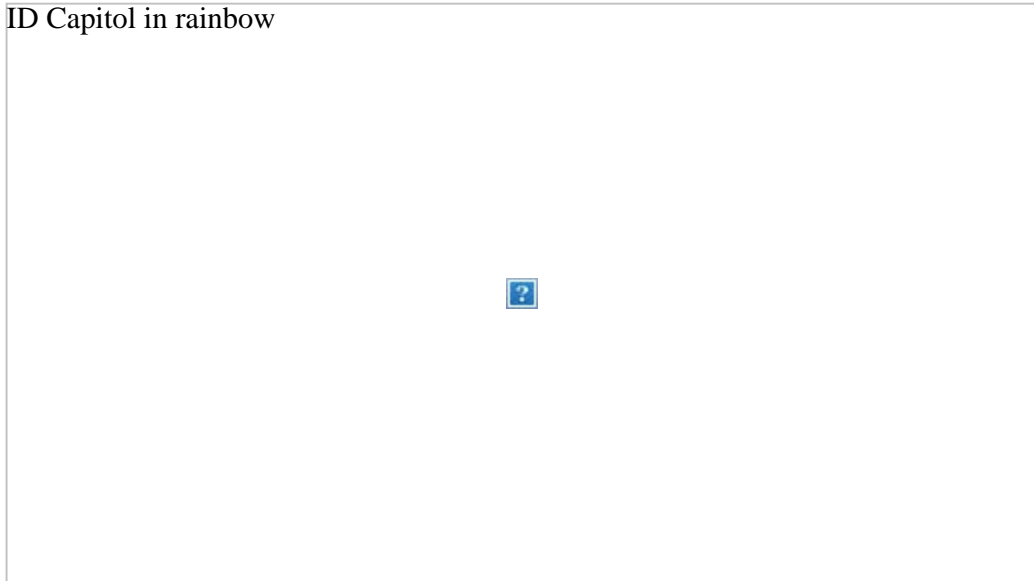
Sent from my iPhone

On May 16, 2019, at 2:14 PM, John Paulton, Family Policy Alliance of Idaho
<idaho@familypolicyalliance.com> wrote:



The End of the Capitol Rainbow

ID Capitol in rainbow



If you happen to be in downtown Boise during the Pride festival on June 14-15, you'll see lots of rainbows – on clothing and banners and signs. But one thing you won't see the rainbow on is the State Capitol.

That's because the State of Idaho has decided not to allow the State Capitol to be lit up by organizations for their events.

For years, a growing number of organizations have taken advantage of the

"come one, come all" policy of the state to light up the State Capitol for their events. In fact, the "growing number" was part of the problem; it was becoming a burden to the state.

But of all the Capitol lighting displays, the one that always seemed like the biggest spectacle was the rainbow display. No matter how many times you reminded yourself that it didn't represent an official state position, it always conveyed the sense that the state had come down on the side of a Far Left agenda.



Thankfully, the state recognized that the lighting displays were associating the state with controversial political agendas, and that was also part of the calculus in changing the policy.

But while the symbolism of rainbow lighting displays is now a thing of the past, the much more important *substance* of Idaho policies related to the LGBT agenda is very much in the present.

To get a glimpse of various examples of that agenda, just take a look at new laws passed in the last year in nearby states:

- Establishing a new *graduation requirement* that students learn about the "history, culture and social contributions" of "lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals."
- Allowing minors to change the "sex" on their birth certificate – *without* their parents' knowledge or permission.
- Mandating that foster parents support the "gender transition" or even surgical "sex change" of their foster kids.

And of course, that doesn't even get into other core issues of the LGBT agenda: the attacks on religious freedom and the undermining of women's privacy and safety.

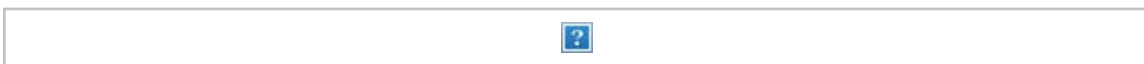
With the involvement and support of people like you, we've made progress this year in pushing back against that agenda. Together, let's keep standing strong and taking action – lovingly speaking the truth to a culture that desperately needs it.

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Date: Thursday, May 16, 2019 1:14:20 PM



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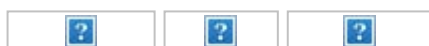
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